

**Karner Blue Butterfly HCP
Partner's Implementation Oversight Committee (IOC) Meeting**

August 13, 2003

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

at The Nature Conservancy - 633 W. Main St., Madison

Minutes

Present: Rita Hayen, Rob Kudick, Joel Aanensen, Janet Smith (DOT), David Lentz (moderator), Eric Ebersberger, Scott Bernstein (recorder), Steve Richter, Peter Moreno, Lori Bowman. Rick Dailey, Jim Zahasky, Paul Rasmussen (DNR statistician)

Anti-Trust Announcement made by Eric Ebersberger.

HCP partnership has developed Anti Trust policy. The complete document is available for details.

1. Agenda repair - no comments, added item: discussion on date for winter meeting (added as item 15)
2. Approve 4/9/2003 IOC minutes - minutes published, no comments or additions, minutes approved.
3. Review ACTION ITEMS from previous IOC meeting -

ACTION ITEM: (Re: ANR Pipeline's request for a premanagement survey exclusion around safety signs.) Dave will send a letter to FWS requesting this amendment.

Update Dave: This was done. Cathy Carnes has requested more data on this issue, so it's still under review.

ACTION ITEM: (Re: Letter DNR sent to FWS-R3 on draft Recovery Plan.) Dave will distribute letter to Bill Hartwig with explanation of its purpose.

Update Dave: Done.

ACTION ITEM: Dave will talk to the Natural Resources Foundation and the Fish and Wildlife Foundation about the possibility of setting up an account to bank HCP fees, or to solicit ideas for other ways to do this.

Update Dave: Not done yet.

ACTION ITEM: Gary Birch will draft a proposal on how to use mowing to control invasive plants.

Update: (Not discussed in meeting - Gary was absent.) Prior to meeting, Gary told Dave he was still working on it, but wanted to get feedback from field staff following completion of a whole field season.

4. Introduce new IOC representatives and alternates. - Dave announced the newly selected IOC representatives and alternates who will serve on the IOC effective 9/27/03. All appointments were confirmed. New members: Jim Zahasky (of Jackson County Forest, representing the County Forest group), Jody Gindt (of Eau Claire County Forest, County Forest alternate), Joel Aanensen (Plum Creek Timber, representing the Forest Industry group). Rob Kudick agreed to another term representing the Forest Industry group, but this time as the alternate. Representatives who completed terms and are leaving IOC are Rick Dailey (Clark County Forest) and Doug Barncard (International Paper). Dave thanked outgoing members for their service and welcomed new members. Dave suggested that Earl Gustafson (WI Paper Council) be officially added to the IOC member roster as a participating representative. It was intended that Earl be a formal IOC member due to his years of

experience on the HCP team. Somehow this slipped through the cracks. Dave will contact Earl to assure him that he is welcome to participate on the IOC.

5. Select IOC Chair for upcoming term:

Before selecting a chair, a previous point of process needed to be resolved. IOC reviewed a memo from 4/29/02, dealing with the length of term for IOC chairs with only one year left on term as a team member. A chair can serve up to two 2-year terms, but no more than one term consecutively. This does not allow for a chair that became chair with only one year left on their IOC representative's term to serve more than one year.

Decision: There was consensus that a member can serve up to 4 years as chair, but no more than two years consecutively.

1) Do we need to amend HCP or publish an official clarification?

ACTION ITEM: Dave will draft and publish an official HCP clarification to the effect that a partner can serve as IOC Chair for up to 4 years total, but no more than two consecutive years.

2) Dave Lentz nominated Gary Birch for IOC Chair. No other nominations were offered. IOC representatives re-elected Gary Birch as IOC Chair for a second consecutive year. Rita moved to elect Gary, Lori seconded motion. **Gary Birch was unanimously elected to continue as chair for the next permit year (September 27, 2003 through September 26, 2004).**

Confirmation: Previously, Gary had verbally authorized Dave to accept the chair on his behalf if selected.

Thanks Gary -- Keep up the good work.

6. DNR Budget/staffing situation: How might current state budget effect HCP/ITP administration and staffing? - Since agenda was created, the Governor has signed budget. The Legislative Fiscal Bureau demonstrated support for the HCP project, and Joint Finance Committee approved (16-0) the proposed budget increase and along with a new position for the program. Position specifics are still being discussed.

7. FWS & DNR July 10th meeting update (Dave Lentz and Cathy Carnes), and discussion:

- Re-evaluate monitoring strategy (not just the protocol)
- What is working? What is not? How might these be improved?
- Who will work on improvements?

Dave: In preparation for this meeting, Dave reviewed the prescribed burn protocol in the Wildlife Mgt. Guidelines. A number of practices seemed too narrow (one size fits all), while others, for lack of a better word, appeared to be "overkill" (did not add value or were contradictory). Cathy and Dave still have some work to understand what needs to be done to improve the prescribed burn protocol.

This led to an equally important discussion related to the monitoring system. Now that the HCP partners have had 5 years experience monitoring, there are a number of things about the protocol, even the primary objectives that don't make sense. Cathy was understanding and sympathetic to the need to re-evaluate effectiveness monitoring and self-monitoring, and to re-invent (if needed) a new, more meaningful and valuable approach to monitoring. Cathy suggested we revisit the original objectives and assess the reasons for monitoring and whether the current strategy is working. One example is that Level 3 monitoring isn't telling us as much as we would like. With such widespread numbers of stable, well-buffered KBB populations in Wisconsin, it may be difficult to assess the efficacy of the HCP by trying to assess the statewide population. There are likely many Karners on private land that we will never know about. Also, it may be irrelevant to make a correlation from statewide population trends to what partners influence and can change. There are so many variables that affect the statewide Karner population that are not influenced by partner activities. What we

really need to demonstrate is that the way we perform land management activities is more beneficial to Karner than negative. Assessing the impacts of the actual management activities partners perform may better prove the efficacy of the plan. This will also provide more direct information for adaptive management, and in a shorter period of time. To close the loop, compliance audits will validate that partners are following the protocols.

The effects of HCP management activities can be assessed a number of ways: First, look at the data partners have gathered on the effects of their management. There may be much data out there that has not been shared. Also, research can be initiated to fill the gaps. Anticipated result would be decreased monitoring assignments for some, increases for others. Rita: (The benefit of our monitoring) does not need to be focused entirely in Wisconsin, but can have importance nationwide. Dave: Monitoring that is a part of a research activity that will serve KBB management and Recovery nationwide may be able to be funded from private sources. The work may be done on partner's land, but could be done by college students.

Joel: There is a lot of research already out there that many companies have already performed. Plum Creek has done many studies on cause/effect of management techniques.

Steve: Practical knowledge may be good enough, our monitoring may not have documented this.

Rita: Electrical Projects Research Institute (EPRI) may have funding. Also, Matt Krumenauer would be the best ATC/EPRI liaison.

ACTION ITEM: Dave to talk with Matt Krumenauer about direct involvement as members of the monitoring team being assembled.

8. Monitoring Strategy & Protocol:

- Coordination Meeting Report: suggested approach to improving
- Monitoring results and overlapping with federal recovery
- Paul Rasmussen's recommendations(attached letters, Paul Rasmussen)

Paul: If the objectives might change, the approach I have been thinking about might be different. We will need to evaluate and clearly define the objectives. See handout on Paul's evaluation / suggestions. Current method involves selecting new sites every year--no long-term evaluation of sites. Proposed method would involve looking at POH sites for a longer term. Integrates with proposed adaptive management studies. Steve: how do you define a site? How do you set a transect that is practical? Is this necessary to do annually? Paul: Possibility to do less than annually, but need to evaluate this more. Probably more important to monitor more sites less frequently than less sites more often. We don't know how to best define a site yet. So far, we've done it through management techniques. Just looking at lupine may not cover their whole flight area, for example. Dave: Expectation is that we have monitoring system adjustments in place before the next field season. Steve: Need dollar estimate to meet these goals.

ACTION ITEM: Dave begins process of direction for monitoring team.

9. Participation Strategy 3-year review - Discuss draft (previously mailed to IOC)

Peter passed out draft of 3-year review. Discussion of picture choice and possible substitutions. Peter: This will go first to FWS, and we are discussing what sort of additional target audience this is for. Is this the right time to trumpet this across the nation as the "model HCP?" National environmental groups, executives, legislators, funding sources, etc. would be possible audience. Change people's perspectives. Janet: Piggy-backing KBB education on something similar to a birding trail could be possible; or in association with the Wisconsin Birding Trail program. Peter: working on PowerPoint presentation of 3YR.

10. New Fact Sheets: Review & comment; discuss use and distribution (refresher on HCP communication plan). Peter / Dave: Handouts are for DNR service centers, public places, etc. Sheets, .pdf or Word document files are available to partners for reproduction and distribution. Documents are available on website also as .pdf files. Also, see the new website updates. More and more information is on the web site to reduce email and mailings.

Action Peter: For partners who can't easily work with very large files, put the new fact sheets on CD.

Karner Blue Festival report

Dave: Awareness of butterfly has increased over the years...Butterflies everywhere at the festival! The Black River Falls area (lead by Jim Zahasky, Jackson County Forest partner) has made a huge, grassroots effort around KBB/barrens education and has shown that as a community, they can do conservation. How do we get the message across better to the public and public officials?

11. Roadside/corridor habitat inventory proposal (Rita Hayen) - Proposed idea for partners to construct database of shared lupine corridors that would be available to interested partners. Surveying would be done in advance to document lupine. Issue addresses problem of POH partners not knowing where their lupine is, and not being able to conduct pre-management surveys. In the past, though, POH partners had a good grasp of lupine locations, and this issue doesn't necessarily affect all partners. Suggestion was that partners affected and others who are interested develop a plan for this.

12. Partner Inclusions:

- Existing applications' status report
- New or pending application

Dave: The most recent request for a Certificate of Inclusion (CI) was for the Town of Swiss (Burnett County). Al Madsen (Northwestern Wisconsin Electric partner) was very instrumental in helping to bring this partner along. Steve: What percentage of townships are we reaching? Dave: Not sure, but overall, not many; and there are conflicts with mowing practices and timing that could be misleading to these folks. This needs to be resolved. There are several obstacles to working with townships, including resistance to government agencies. Shepherding of potential partners is very instrumental in removing the fear and educating potential limited partners, but it takes local effort by partners. Rita: It may be advantageous for partners to make first contact with townships, other potential partners. This may be a better, low-key and local way of approaching entities.

Also, a second draft of SHCA for Onyx Waste Services Seven-mile Creek Landfill, and 7 other applications are being reviewed by FWS: Burnett County Hwy Dept, Towns of Adams and Quincy (Adams County), Juneau County Hwy Dept, Eau Claire County Hwy Dept, Plum Creek, ATC.

Delays of certificates by FWS present many problems to partners that have been waiting for these.

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13. What issues should Dave & new IOC Chair take to 10/29/03 HCP 6-month Review meeting with FWS?

Partner application processing still delayed. Plans modeled after FWS-accepted plans should be accepted immediately (e.g., ATC plan was modeled after Alliant's, Plum Creek simply had a name change-- these applications have been held up for more than a year). Limited partner applications are a no-brainer (or should be). Need to make process more streamlined or partners will drop off in time. Things that are being done rapidly in other regions are taking a long time to process in Region 3. Rita suggested calling FWS to complain.

14. Set date for HCP Team (all partners) winter meeting.

Dave suggested delaying the traditional December winter meeting until January or February to increase attendance by avoiding holidays and Christmas parties; and (2) to allow time to complete work on the monitoring system improvements so partners can be trained in the final results, or if a whole partner decision is needed, a decision can be made on a complete, comprehensive question.

The 2003/04 Winter HCP Partners meeting will be:

Wednesday, February 18th, 2004

Location: TBD (suggested being in Eau Claire)

Plan is to evaluate in October / December whether an IOC meeting is needed in addition to Winter Meeting, or may be held same date. IOC will work on meeting plan in October and December.

15. Closing

- Scott summarized key points, action items, and October 8, 2003 agenda items
- Set next two IOC meetings:

October IOC Meeting:

October 8, 2003 IOC meeting

Location: The Mead Inn, Wisconsin Rapids

9:30 a.m. start time.

December IOC Meeting:

December 10, 2003

Location: Schmeekle Reserve, Stevens Point

9:30 a.m. start time.

- Evaluate this meeting: No substantive comments were offered.

Additional - Lori discussed DOW pesticide with restrictions of 1 mile use in proximity to lupine (in MI and WI). Product affects caterpillars. Cranberry growers were concerned about restrictions and use. How does HCP affect labeling of product? EPA is discussing with FWS how products are registered as relates to HCP. What is proper setback (1 mile seems too large, where did that come from)? Review by EPA is focused on pesticide regulations and registration of products.